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Request for Information Reference: 03.21.16

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

4 April 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

8 March 2021 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to products used for antiseptic skin preparation and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1) Please confirm if County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust follows NICE guidance 125 (Surgical Site Infections: Prevention and Treatment) when carrying out antiseptic skin preparation prior to surgery?

- a. **If yes, please provide a copy of County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust's most up-to-date surgical site infection prevention protocol.**

The Trust can confirm that it does follow this guidance. In respect of sections:

- 1.3.7 - The skin at the surgical site is prepared immediately before incision using an antiseptic preparation.
- 1.3.8 - While the Trust is not a specialist centre for surgery on pre term babies, however the risks of using skin antiseptics in babies would be discussed during the team brief with the operating Consultant.

In addition, please note that confirmation the Surgical Site Infection (SSI) bundle has been undertaken (antibiotics, hair removal, patient warming, glycaemic control) is part of the Time out in the Surgical Safety Checklist (WHO LocSSIP), please see attachment one.

2) How does County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust communicate to NHS staff the category difference between antiseptic products that are medicines vs biocides and their intended use?

- a. **Please share any communication materials.**

The Trust expects all professional groups that administer medicines to have a working knowledge of them, which is defined in the professional standards. It is an identical situation for the biocides used in the control of infection, be it

decontamination solutions for cleaning of the environment or those used for skin preparation etc.

In short, the Trust only asks the appropriate staff to use medicines and products within their scope of practise and with the appropriate knowledge of a product.

3) Can you please specify which antiseptic skin preparation products are used in County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust operating theatres for the purposes of prevention of surgical site infections?

The antiseptic skin preparations used in the Trust are as follows:

- Videne 10% Antiseptic
- Videne 10% povidine/iodine
- Chlorhexidene 0.5% (Hydrex clear)
- Chlor prep 2% for cannulation
- Chlor prep with tint for invasive procedures.

4) Does County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust obtain patient consent prior to surgical procedures?

Yes, the patients sign a consent form prior to a surgical procedure, which is reconfirmed if the patient has signed in clinic ahead of the procedure date.

a. If yes, please provide the written material that County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust uses to obtain consent.

Please see Attachment 2 for a copy of the Trust's consent documentation.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer